include a first subterranean part made of numerous wells of depths varying from two to four meters, linked together by a small canal serving as a water conductor; then comes a part on top of the ground in the form of a canal, first at the same level as the wadi, then at a slightly higher level. They empty into the distribution reservoirs (majem), which by secondary canals (seguia) carry water to the gardens to be irrigated.

These agricultural centers therefore extend along the wadi on both sides of its banks. The cultivators settle near their gardens and live in straw or reed huts or little clay houses.

There are five centers in the high mountains between 1, 500 and 1, 800 meters in altitude, but the majority are located between 1, 200 and 1, 500 meters. Some of them can be lower, such as Silet (730 meters) and I-n-Amegel (1, 030 meters).

Some are small date groves such as Silet and Tibeghîn, which have 10, 000 palm trees, Ideles, Tâhârt, and Ăbalessa, but because of its altitude, the Ahaggar does not seem to be very suitable for date growing. The instability of the harratin is also an obstacle to the development of arboriculture which demands continual care. Cultivators who can be here today and gone tomorrow would not be capable of interesting themselves in work from which they could not draw immediate profit. The country would lend itself, however, to rather large-scale cultivation of peaches, /246/ apricots, figs, and grapes. The little center of Tăzerouk has many peach trees, and the center at Tit produces a famous raisin.

The Ahaggar soil is of a high quality, owing part of its richness to elements of volcanic origin which make up a large proportion of the alluvial deposits. Furthermore, the climate favors agriculture so much that the natives obtain two or even three harvests a year.

In the medium altitude centers, they sow wheat and barley in December and harvest it in May. Barely finished with this, they sow millet which is harvested at the beginning of October. In between the natives also engage in kitchen gardening: carrots,